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Specification and Drawings, as originally filed, with Application for Patent Serial No:
2,309,622, on May 25, 2000, by JOHN ANDREW, for "Billiard, Snooker and Pool Cue
Shaft".

S. L. Lacroix
Agent certificateur/Certifying Officer

June 7, 2001

Date

Canada

(CIPO 68)
01-12-00

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TO: CANADIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE

FROM: JOHN ANDREWS
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CANADA

RE: CUE APPARATUS WITH IMPROVED SHAFT

I am a resident of Canada, with the mailing address set out above. I am the inventor and the Applicant. I hereby seek the grant of a Canadian patent. This document sets forth a description of my invention, under section 93 of the Patent Rules, as follows:

I DESCRIPTION OF MY INVENTION

My invention is a billiard, snooker and pool cue shaft (the "Cue") which is connected to either an existing butt end of a two piece Cue, or that is designed to slip over the shaft end of an existing Cue (the "Invention").

II CUE PARTS

The Invention consists of the following parts and segments, in one embodiment, which is set out here by way of example and not as restricting the scope of my invention:

A. PARTS

1. a hollow, cone-shaped shaft, which reduces in diameter from the butt end to the tip end, comprised of a chromium steel finish or similar material;
2. a circular Cue tip comprised of leather, or leather tip with threaded brass body, or similar material;
3. an attaching threaded or similarly designed shaft Cue butt connector;
4. a connector mechanism to attach the tip to the shaft comprised of an epoxy or similar material;
5. a weighting material, comprised of lead powder or similar material;
6. an epoxy or similar material to mix with the lead powder; and
7. a cork or similar material to seal the shaft chamber

(collectively referred to as the "Parts").

B. SEGMENTS

The Invention, which comprises the Parts listed above, is manufactured either to standard specifications or can be assembled to suit specific requirements of the tip to standard shaft, which is then collectively attached to the threaded or nut connector, butt end of a two piece Cue. The shaft and attached tip, without the attached butt connector, is also designed to be attached to the shaft of the standard one piece Cue, by simply sliding it over the existing Cue shaft and cut to length.

When the Invention is manufactured and all of the Parts assembled, some typical embodiments of the Invention are as follows:

1. Embodiment #1

1. The larger diameter end of the shaft is designed to be attached as one integral unit to the threaded or unthreaded butt end of the standard two piece Cue and then acts as one integral Cue;
2. As the shaft is cone-shaped, it is a hollow, solid figure with a circular plane base, narrowing to a point. This makes the shaft design in this fashion to resemble a standard Cue shaft. This design then allows the shaft to be filled either at the tip end or butt end with a weighted material to increase its weight. If it is at the tip end, the shaft is sealed at the butt end and a mixture of powder and epoxy is added to the user's specifications and then sealed at the tip end. If it is at the butt end, the tip is sealed and the lead powder is inserted into the shaft and a cork, or similar material, is used to seal the shaft. The amount of weighted material added is at the user's discretion. It will be noted that the weighted material may be added from either opening and may be formed of any material with the required properties to be inserted and formed into a fixed part of the hollow cue tip (such as for example melted material, epoxy, or other self-hardening or airing mixtures;
3. After the weighted material is added, a tip is then attached to the narrow end of the hollow shaft to complete the seal. The tip is secured by an epoxy or similar material;
4. After the tip is connected and the shaft is weighted to the user's specification, a connector device is attached to a larger diameter sized end. This connector can be either a threaded male or female coupling. This coupling is then attached to the shaft, which is then designed to be attached to the Cue butt end;
5. the user now has an operational Cue.

2. Embodiment #2

There are circumstances whereby a unibody wood or similar material Cue will warp near the tip end. In those situations, the Cue is typically discarded. My invention eliminates the need to discard the warped or cracked Cue.

As the shaft is hollow and cone-shaped, it is designed to replace the narrow, warped end of the existing Cue. The existing Cue's warped end is cut to length and the warped end is discarded. The hollow shaft is then inserted over the remaining Cue. The attached shaft is then cut to length, weighted as desired, and a tip is affixed, as per the methods described in embodiment #1. The affixed shaft then eliminates or reduces the warp in the existing Cue and may only add millimeters to the existing shaft diameter.

III. THE PRIOR ART

My Invention is an improvement over the prior art which would not be obvious to a skilled practitioner in the industry. For example, the prior art consists of wood, graphite and metal Cues and shaft extensions. These shafts typically provide strong resistance to the player

when in use and requires the player to use hand powder, or talcum powder, or some other external substance to reduce this friction between bridging fingers and shaft. Also, as these shafts are usually not hollow and come in predetermined weights, they prevent player from weighting the shaft in a customizable way.

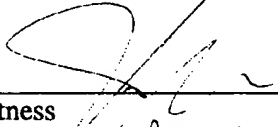
IV. IMPROVEMENTS OVER PRIOR ART

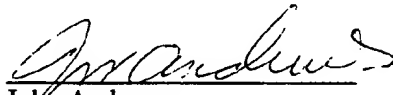
1. the Invention provides an extra shaft for the butt end;
2. it will never warp or crack;
3. it provides less cue to nesting hand friction;
4. it does not require any hand powder;
5. it is light;
6. it is hollow so that it can be weighted;
7. it will last a lifetime;
8. it can be adapted for shaft replacement on existing one piece Cues;
9. it provides the player with a better feel and touch at impact of the Cue ball;
and
10. it provides the player with an extra shaft for a two-piece Cue and can fit in most carrying cases

All of the above, and as displayed in my photographs and drawings attached in the 5 sheets, comprises my invention.

Dated at Calgary, Alberta 19 day of May, 2000.

Witness


Robert Donick
Barristers & Solicitors


John Andrews

Description of pictures:**Three configurations:****picture #1.****Two piece cue**

1. Butt end with wood shaft and (slip-on metal shaft with tip).
2. Butt end with complete wood shaft and (spare metal shaft complete as per embodiment #1).

one piece cue

3. Unibody wood cue (with slip-on metal shaft complete with tip as per embodiment #2)

Picture #2**Two piece cue**

1. Butt end with wood shaft and (spare metal shaft 3/8 thread)
2. Butt end with wood shaft and (slip-on metal shaft with tip)
3. Butt end with wood shaft and (spare metal shaft 5/8 thread)

one piece cue

4. Unibody cue with (slip-on metal shaft with tip)

04 March 2000

